Case 2954

Suchonella Spizharsky, 1937 (Crustacea, Ostracoda): proposed designation of *S. typica* Spizharsky, 1939 as the type species

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to stabilise the usage of the name *Suchonella* Spizharsky, 1937 (superfamily SUCHONELLOIDEA Mischina, 1972) for a genus of Late Permian and Triassic ostracods by the designation of *Suchonella typica* Spizharsky, 1939 as the type species. At present the nominal species *S. malachovi* Spizharsky, 1937 is the type but this was described on a young instar which lacked the diagnostic features of the genus as described in 1937 and as currently understood.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Crustacea; Ostracoda; SUCHONELLOIDEA; Permian; Triassic; *Suchonella*; *Suchonella malachovi*; *Suchonella typica*.

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1. Spizharsky (1937, p. 159) described the new ostracod genus *Suchonella* from the Kolchugino Series of the Kuznetsk Basin, along the Tom River in northern Russia. The deposits were laid down in a closed brackish water basin and are of Upper Permian to Triassic age. The genus included three new taxa, *Suchonella typica*, *S.* cf. *typica* and *S. malachovi*. The first of these was indicated as the type species but there was no description and the name was thus a nomen nudum. The second (p. 159, pl. 1, fig. 22) referred to an unnamed species that is unavailable as the type species. *Suchonella malachovi* was described and illustrated (p. 160, pl. 1, figs. 23 26) and since it is the only included species cited by an available name it is the type of *Suchonella* by monotypy. Spizharsky's name has been romanized by himself and others as Spizharskyi, Spizharski and Spizharskiy.

2. *Suchonella malachovi* Spizharsky, 1937 was described from a young instar and therefore lacks the diagnostic features of *Suchonella* as described by Spizharsky in 1937. In particular, there in no wide posterior end, spine or sulcus. The type locality and whereabouts of the type specimen were not stated; the specimen is possibly in the collections of the Central Scientific Research Geological–Prospecting Institute (see Ellis & Messina, 1981). The lack of information on *Suchonella* as defined by *malachovi* is apparent in the publications by Schneider (1948), Belousova (1963) and Lyutevitch (1967), in which there is no mention of the spine or sulcus. Ellis & Messina (1981) cited *S. malachovi* as the type species by monotypy of *Suchonella* and noted that Swain's (1961) designation of *S. typica* as the type was invalid.

3. In 1939 Spizharsky redescribed (pp. 193–194) *Suchonella* and redescribed and re–illustrated (p. 194, pl. 46, fig. 11) *S. malachovi*. He also described and illustrated (p. 194, pl. 46, fig. 6) *S. typica* for the first time, referring to this taxon as 'Spizharsky, in litt.'. The specific name of *typica* became available from this publication. The type material is from the Permian Northern Dvina Beds, recovered from the village of Aristovo in northern European Russia. The figured specimen is housed in the collections of the Central Geological Museum, St Petersburg.

4. With the exception of Ellis & Messina in 1981 (para. 2 above), all those who have published on *Suchonella* since 1939 have considered the type species of the genus to be *S. typica* and Swain (1961), Howe (1962), Kemp (1980), Molostovskaya (1980, 1990) and Sohn (1987, 1997), for example, have cited, albeit incorrectly, *S. typica* as the type. The concept of *Suchonella* cannot be defined through its current type species, *S. malachovi*, because the type specimen is immature and lacks diagnostic features. We propose that *S. typica* be designated the type species, in accord with the current understanding and usage of the majority of authors. *Suchonella* is the basis of the suprageneric categories SUCHONELLIDAE and SUCHONELLOIDEA (= Suchonellacea) Mischina, 1972.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous type fixations for the nominal genus *Suchonella* Spizharsky, 1937 and to designate *Suchonella typica* Spizharsky, 1939 as the type species;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Suchonella* Spizharsky, 1937 (gender: feminine), type species by designation in (1) above *Suchonella typica* Spizharsky, 1939;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *typica* Spizharsky, 1939, as published in the binomen *Suchonella typica* (specific name of the type species of *Suchonella* Spizharsky, 1937).

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